A BRIEF ACCOUNT Of what Pass'd at the Common Council HELD IN LONDON,

On *Friday* the 13*th.* day of *May.* 1681.

IMmediately before the Common Council Sate, the Lord Mayor and Aldermen (as is usual) held their Court; in it was read a Letter from His Majesty, Commanding them to send to Him forthwith upon the Receipt of His Letter, those two Petitions that had been presented to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen on the 28*th.* of *April* last. His Majesty designing (it seems) to remove and take away all pretence or Colour, that might be taken by the Parties to those Petitions, to raise any Disputes or Contests in the Common Council about the subject matter of them.

The Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen unanimously agreed to give Obedience to His Majesties Letter, and to send two of their Members, Sir *William Turner*, and Sir *John Moore* to wait upon His Majesty, and to deliver Him those two Petitions.

This being over, at Eleven of the Clock the Common Council Sate, and having dispatch'd some City Business, Notice was taken of some Petitioners being at the Door, and a Motion was made that they might be called in.

Mr. *Papillon* and four more brought in the Petition; It was,

(1.) *That Thanks* might be given to *those that* had served for the City in the *late House* of Commons at *Oxford.*

(2.) *That*

(2.) *That* the Petition delivered in *on the* 28*th.* of *April* might be taken *into Conſideration.*

The point of Thanks being firſt propoſed, was carried in the Affirmative; but not without Oppoſition.

The ſecond point, where the Queſtion, *Whether the Petition preſented the* 28th. *of* April *ſhould be taken into Conſideration AT THIS TIME, or not?* was long Conteſted; at laſt they came to a Poll, which happened to be thus;

11. Aldermen againſt taking the Petition into Conſideration.

7. Aldermen for it.

66. Common Council-men againſt taking the Petition into Conſideration.

84. Common Council-men for it.

Thoſe that were *not for taking the Petition into Conſideration* did plead,

Firſt, That the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen had already laid it aſide, together with another Petition, preſented the ſame 28th day of *April*, wherein the Petitioners pretended to nothing elſe, but that His Majeſty might have their humble Thanks given Him for His late Gracious Declaration.

2. That the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen had, but an hour or two before, reſolved in Obedience to His Majeſty, to ſend both the ſaid Petitions of the 28th of *April* to His Majeſty to diſpoſe of as He ſhould think fit; Well hoping thereby to prevent any occaſion of difference that might ariſe thereupon.

3. That the Petition now contended for, containing Matters of State, no way proper for the Debate of that Aſſembly. Thoſe that were againſt it, proteſted, that they were come thither to Treat and Reſolve of the concerns of the City, and were ready and deſirous to do their duty in that behalf; But if any others would meddle with Matters of State (ſuch as the ſaid Petition ſeemed to contain) being altogether Foreign to their buſineſs and their Conſtitution, They would have no hand in it, but muſt withdraw, and ſo did *all* thoſe Aldermen and *moſt* of the Common Council that were *againſt taking ſaid Petition into Conſideration.*

The *other party* went on with the *Conſideration of the ſaid Petition*, and appointed a Committee to draw up an Addreſs to His Majeſty, which being prepared, was read once, and without more ado paſt, and was voted to be preſented to His Majeſty, by the hands of Sir *Robert Clayton*, and ſix or ſeven more.

This is the Sum of what paſt at the ſaid Common Council, by which it may be Remark'd, that notwithſtanding the *ſur-prize* of a great part of the Court, as to the Matter to be Debated, and notwithſtanding the *Change* that was made in the laſt Election of Common Council-men, that thoſe who carried an Addreſs laſt Winter (as they pretended, with a *Nemine contradicente*) came ſhort of this, in the Court of Aldermen, by four voices, and carried it but by 18 in the Common Council.

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